THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Madhya Pradesh is one of the four States covered under the Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project. The project envisages strengthening of existing agencies responsible for Dam Safety inclusive of rehabilitation works at selected dams upgrading standards and procedures for dam safety inspections and review in the Central Government and the four participating States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. The Project would cover 33 dams including 8 dams in Madhya Pradesh, namely, Pagara, Pillowa, Kotwal, Gandhisagar, Tigra, Kaketo, Barna and Aoda. The World Bank has provided an amount of US $ 153 million for the implementation of the Project.

Madhya Pradesh—a Drought Prone State

3243. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Madhya Pradesh is a drought prone State in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make available additional funds for irrigatrion sector in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how the Government propose to strengthen the irrigation sector in Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) 11 out of 45 districts of Madhya Pradesh have been identified as drought prone districts according to a study carried out by the Central Water Commission.

(b) to (d) Irrigation Projects are formulated by the State Governments to provide irrigation facilities in the region where it is considered essential. Ministry of Water Resources has no separate funds and has not formulated any separate plans to provide irrigation facilities and strengthen the irrigation sector in Madhya Pradesh. However under Drought Prone Area Programme of Ministry of Rural Development, funds are proposed to be provided in 6 drought prone districts of M.P. to construct small water resources structures to augment irrigation.

Special Courts to hear the cases of Atrocities on SC/ST

@3244. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Special Courts at District level for hearing the matters of atrocities on SC/ST Communities have been constituted in all districts in all states;

(b) if not, the names of districts in which such special courts have not so far been constituted with reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of cases received in such special court constituted at District level in all States for hearing cases of atrocities on SC/ST Communities; and

(d) the total number of cases out of (c) above, decided in favour of SC/ST Communities and nature of decision taken in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) All the State Governments and UT Administrations except Aurnachal Pradesh Mizoram and Nagaland have specified Special Courts at District levels for the trial of offences under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

The State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland do not feel it necessary to specify Special Courts under the Act as there are no incidents of atrocities. The Act does not extended to Jammu & Kashmir.

@Previously unstarred Question 2063 Transferred from 11-3-93.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected from the State Governments and UT Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

National Commission for Safai Mazdoor

@@3245. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a National Commission for Safai Karamcharies; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are being worked out.

Facilities to Elderly Persons

3246. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY :

SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no proper welfare services are available for the elderly persons in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details of the existing facilities; and

(c) whether Government propose to prepare an effective scheme of welfare services for the elderly persons ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Welfare has under the Eighth Plan, started a new scheme called 'Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for programmes Relating to Aged'. The scheme aims at encouraging voluntary organisations to provide facilities of old age homes, day-care centres, medicare and non-institutional services for the aged.

@@Previously unstarred Question 2073 Transferred from 11-3-93.

Stone Age Tribes

3247. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of the States and Union Territories where stone age tribes are still existing in the country;

(b) what is their population, tribe-wise and area-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the population of these tribes is declining year by year;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to protect this ancient tribal population ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) The Mniistry is not aware of the names of the tribes of stone age. But this Ministry have identified 74 Primitive Tribal Groups who are characterised by pre-agricultural level of technology and extremely low level of literacy. The list of those Primitive Tribal Groups identified is laid on the Table of the House as statement (*see* below).

(c) to (e) A statement indicating the decline of Scheduled Tribe population in 1981 Census in relation to 1971 Census is laid on the Table of the House. (Annexure-II). According to Registrar General of India the decline of population is due to physiological effect of inbreeding, infant mortality, malnutrition, migration of some groups to other areas where the Tribes in question have not been declared as Scheduled Tribe, and wrong enumeration. Various development programmes are being implemented for the welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes.